



Attorney Docket No. 31481USNP  
U.S. Serial No. 09/896,186

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I hereby certify that the following correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as "First Class Mail" with proper postage in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on May 11, 2004.

- 1) Response to Office Communication (7 pages total)
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Melissa Hardy

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Name

*Melissa Hardy*

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Signature



1638  
EJW  
Attorney Docket No. 31481USNP

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

ART UNIT: 1638

Levin et al.

EXAMINER: Mehta, Ashwin D.

APPLICATION NO: 09/896,186

CONFIRMATION NO.: 9567

FILED: June 29, 2001

FOR: Method of Controlling Gene Expression and Gene Silencing

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**RESPONSE TO OFFICE COMMUNICATION**

Sir:

In the Office Communication dated May 6, 2004, it was noted that Applicants' response filed on March 1, 2004 was not fully responsive to the prior Office Action. Accordingly, Applicants submit herewith the claim amendments following the revised amendment practice of 37 CFR 1.126.